



## **Referee Procedures for Regular Season Competition**

### ***ECNL Club Competition and ECNL Regional League Games***

The Elite Clubs National League (“ECNL”) is the country’s top youth soccer league, including two levels of competition: the ECNL Club Competition and ECNL Regional League. Collectively, these two levels represent the country’s best youth clubs, teams, and players, and the quality of competition requires the top referees in the country as well.

Thank you for accepting the assignment to referee in the ECNL.

**Every game played in the ECNL impacts competition standings and postseason qualification in some way - there are no “friendly” games or “meaningless” games.** For your reference, below is general information and rules applicable to all ECNL competitions.

#### Game Ball:

U13-U18/U19 - Size 5 (provided by the home team)

U11-U12 - Size 4 (provided by the home team)

- Game ball should be Nike for all ECNL Club competitions
- NOTE: If the appropriate manufacturer ball is not available, competition should continue

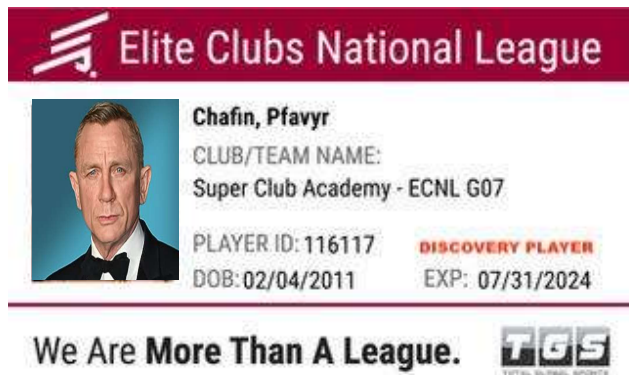
#### Game Length:


- U11, U12: 30 minute halves (10 minute halftime)
- U13: 35 minute halves (10 minute halftime)
- U14, U15 & U16: 40 minute halves (10 minute halftime)
- U17 & U18/U19: 45 minute halves (15 minute halftime)
- **Referees should provide appropriate stoppage time in every game.**


#### Substitutions, Check In & Passcard Handling:

- Each player, coach and staff on the bench must have an ECNL passcard that is verified during the team check-in process
- Players designated as “Discovery Players” are tied to the age group in which they are carded and are only permitted to play for the team listed on the passcard.
- The ECNL allows up to two (2) U15 Trapped Players to participate in U14 ECNL Competition during their sanctioned high school season. Please reference ECNL Competition Rule 2.9.2 for more information.

- U13-U18/U19: seven (7) substitutions maximum are allowed per half in in conference or league competition. Players may not re-enter in the same half. (NOTE: At regular season ECNL National Events, substitutions are unlimited.)
  - Any player suspected of suffering a head injury must be evaluated by a health care professional prior to returning to play. If a player is being evaluated on-site by a health care professional for possible return to play, the player may be temporarily substituted while the evaluation occurs, without the substitution counting against the team's total number of substitutions and without prohibiting re-entry by the player being evaluated if he/she is ultimately cleared. This temporary substitution for evaluation of a potential head injury may take place regardless of whether the team has used all substitutions for the half. For purposes of clarification, if the team has used all eligible substitutions (7) for the half, the team may still substitute a player into the game who has already been substituted for purposes of this head injury evaluation. For further clarification, if the team has not yet used all eligible substitute players in the half, the temporary substitute must be a player who is still eligible to enter. If the player being evaluated is cleared to continue participation, that player should re-enter the game at the first substitution possible after the clearance decision is made by the health care professional.
- U11-U12: unlimited substitutions.
- Check In:
  - Referees **must** check in players and staff prior to the match. Starting line up passcards should be handed to the linesman prior to the start of the game.
  - Substitutes should hand the referee their passcard prior to entry into the game. Cards are to be handed back at half and the end of the game.
- Below is a template of the ECNL passcard (**the only passcard acceptable for ECNL competition**):




**Elite Clubs National League**




**Chafin, Pfavyr**

CLUB/TEAM NAME:  
Super Club Academy - ECNL G07

PLAYER ID: 116117

DOB: 02/04/2011      EXP: 07/31/2024

**We Are More Than A League.**





**Player Signature Not Required**

#### Rosters, Reports and Passcards:

- The home and away team should provide an ECNL Match Report to the referee. Only eighteen (18) players are eligible for the match. These 18 must be indicated on the Match Report. Age-appropriate players that are not pre-printed on the roster may be hand-written on the roster so long as they have a valid ECNL passcard. All active players should have a check mark and unique number. Players listed on the Match Report who will not be active in the match should be 'crossed out'.
- At the conclusion of the game, after the match report has been completed and signed by the referee, the referee should give the game report back to the home team. The home team is responsible for uploading the match report and reporting the score in TGS.
  - Items to be completed by the referee:
    - First half score, Second half score, Final score
    - Goal scorers w/minute marks
    - Yellow and Red Cards (see below for Red Cards), with brief description of red card and red card coding noted
    - Signature from Center Referee to authorize all information contained in Match Report is accurate

#### COVID RECOMMENDATIONS

- Each referee should bring **their own equipment (flags, uniforms, etc.)**.
- Hydration Breaks: Should your match have a hydration break due to temperature index, players may leave the field to collect their personal water bottle for hydration.
- Referees should bring their own hydration. There will be no Gatorade coolers with water or Gatorade on the sidelines.
- If a referee has a temperature over 100 degrees, feels sick or has any symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19 they should not referee the match.

#### Miscellaneous:

- Referees should arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to scheduled kick off time.
- Game fees should be paid to referees no later than immediately after the game. The home team is responsible for payment. Below is the **minimum** referee payscale:
  - U17 & U18/U19 Fees: \$75 to referee and \$50 to each assistant referee, and

- U14, U15, & U16: \$65 to referee and \$40 to each assistant referee.
- U13: \$60 to referee and \$40 to each assistant referee.
- U12: \$40 to referee and \$30 to each assistant referee.
- U11: \$40 to referee and \$22 to each assistant referee.
- Uniforms: In a one-game weekend (teams will confirm uniform colors with each other)
  - Home Team - light shirt, light socks, any short | Away Team: dark shirt, dark socks, any shorts
  - Uniforms: In a two-game weekend (teams will confirm uniform colors with each other)
  - Game #1 - Home Team - light shirt, light socks, any short | Away: dark shirt, dark socks, any shorts
  - Game #2 - Home Team: dark shirt, dark socks, any short | Away: light shirt, light socks, any shorts

#### Red Cards:

- The referee should report all red cards with corresponding documentation immediately following the game to [schedule@theecnj.com](mailto:schedule@theecnj.com). The report should include age group, teams, player(s) sent off, the offense, and referee's name, email and phone number. Referees should not keep player passes for players that are sent off, they should be returned to the team manager.

Should you have any **urgent** game-day questions, direct them to:

- **Jackson Proffitt, [jackson@theecnj.com](mailto:jackson@theecnj.com), 804-836-4578**
- **Ania Barrick, [ania@theecnj.com](mailto:ania@theecnj.com), 804-624-7170**